

DEC 23 2003

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

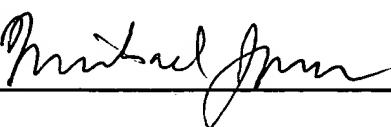
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|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE</i> | <i>REQUEST</i> | <i>Application Number</i> | 09/441,061 |
| | | <i>Filing Date</i> | 11/16/1999 |
| | | <i>First Named Inventor</i> | ENDL et al. |
| | | <i>Group Art Unit</i> | 1644 |
| | | <i>Examiner Name</i> | F. P. VANDER VEGT |
| | | <i>Attorney Docket Number</i> | 2923-335 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
 - b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declarations
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.170(i) required.)
 - b. Other _____
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
 - a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 02-2135.
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee for three (3) months (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other _____
 - b. Check in the amount of \$ 1,720.00 enclosed.
 - c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed.)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|----------------------|---|------|-------------------|
| NAME AND REG. NUMBER | Michael J. Moran, Reg. No. 42,013 | | |
| SIGNATURE |  | DATE | December 23, 2003 |

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